

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. TERRY EVERETT

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 1, 2000

Mr. EVERETT. Mr. Speaker, on January 31, I was unavoidably detained and missed rollcall vote numbers 2 and 3. Had I been present, I would have voted "yes" on H. Con. Res. 244, Permitting the Use of the Capitol Rotunda to Commemorate Victims of the Holocaust; and "yes" on H.R. 2130, the Hillory J. Farias Date-Rape Prevention Drug Act of 1999.

RECOGNITION OF NATIONAL BIOTECHNOLOGY MONTH

HON. PATRICK J. TOOMEY

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 1, 2000

Mr. TOOMEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commend workers in the biotechnology industry for their progress in improving the lives of all Americans. We just concluded National Biotechnology Month, and I would like to take a brief moment to highlight the potential that biotechnology has for us in 21st century.

Biotechnology companies are developing treatments and vaccines for devastating diseases—such as Parkinson's, Alzheimer's, cancer, and AIDS—that will improve the lives of millions of Americans afflicted with these ailments. They are also responsible for developing treatments for smaller diseases harming perhaps just a few hundred people, but nonetheless just as debilitating. In addition, biotechnology is about more than just medical research. Scientists are beginning to use biotechnology for other uses, such as environmental remediation.

Furthermore, the biotechnology industry has also had a significant positive impact on our nation's economy. A recent report by the Joint Economic Committee stated that the biotechnology industry spent \$10 billion on research and development in 1998, while employing 150,000 workers nationwide. My home state of Pennsylvania has helped lead the way in biotechnology, ranking second in the nation in the number of jobs based on biotechnology.

Congress needs to continue to work with the biotechnology industry for an equitable public-private sector partnership, and make sure new technologies are not unnecessarily slowed by over-burdensome regulations. I congratulate the biotechnology industry on its accomplishments and its bright future.

LAW OFFICER OF THE YEAR,
SHERIFF JOHN EBERLY**HON. SCOTT MCINNIS**

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 1, 2000

Mr. MCINNIS. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take a moment to recognize the Law Officer of the Year recipient, Otero County Sheriff John Eberly of La Junta, Colorado.

This award was presented by the Colorado Cattlemen's Association and the Colorado

Brand Board and recognizes Colorado lawmen whose efforts to uphold the state's livestock law have benefitted the entire livestock industry.

During his 25 years with Otero County, Sheriff Eberly has been instrumental in continuing and improving the livestock law training classes for law enforcement. Working with the National Guard, Sheriff Eberly and his staff coordinated the rescue and helicopter feeding operations for stranded livestock during the 1997 blizzard. When floods threatened the Arkansas Valley in 1999, his experience and knowledge was important to the area's ranching businesses.

It is with this, Mr. Speaker, that I would like to congratulate Sheriff John Eberly and also thank him for his tireless commitment to making his community a better place.

TRIBUTE TO THE SOUTHWEST TEXAS STATE UNIVERSITY ALL-GIRL CHEERLEADING SQUAD

HON. RON PAUL

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 1, 2000

Mr. PAUL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the members of the 1999–2000 Southwest Texas State University All-Girl Cheerleading Squad. They recently won first place in the All-Girl Cheer Division at the Universal Cheerleading Association's 2000 College Cheerleading and Dance Team National Championship. The competition was held during the Universal Cheerleading Association's 2000 Championship at Walt Disney World in Orlando, Florida, on January 7, 2000.

Located in the Texas Hill Country city of San Marcos, Southwest Texas State University is justifiably proud of their award winning All-Girl Cheerleading Squad; Karla Brown, Charissa Canuelle, Lexi Chaleff, Alexandria Collie, Krystal Davis, Patricia Goolsby, Ashley Harmon, Robyn Kyriash, Sara Martinez, Shavaun Moynahan, Aimee Moyers, Nicki O'Riley, Kristi Oberpriller, April Rheinlaender, Jennifer Rogers, and Brandi Wilkie. These talented young women received outstanding leadership and support from their coach, Jason Anderson, and the team's trainer, Scott Chambers.

On January 25, 2000, a ceremony was held at the Texas State Capitol Building in Austin, Texas, in honor of the squad. At one o'clock, in the historic chambers of the Texas House of Representatives, State Representative Rick Green presented each of the young champions a copy of a resolution congratulating them on their achievement. A Texas flag flown at the request of Representative Green and a flag of the United States flown at my request were presented to the team. These flags, flown in recognition of their victory, now frame the young women's trophy proudly displayed at their university.

The squad's hard work and dedication to purpose reflects the will that built the great State of Texas and our nation. By continuing this same dedication and work ethic throughout their lives, these young women will succeed in all of their future endeavors. It is my pleasure to be able to congratulate and recognize these fine young Texans in their achievement.

"TAKE DOWN THE FLAG"

HON. JAMES E. CLYBURN

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 1, 2000

Mr. CLYBURN. Mr. Speaker, I rise to speak about an issue that is involving my home State of South Carolina in a national discussion. In recent weeks, the discussion over the confederate flag flying atop the Statehouse in Columbia, South Carolina, has moved from a State issue to a national debate. Of all of the opinions that have been shared throughout this debate, I find the following letter the most cogent and concise on this very emotional issue. Mr. Speaker, I submit for the RECORD the following letter written by Michael A. Allen which appeared in the Post and Courier of Charleston, South Carolina, on Tuesday, January 25, 2000.

[From the Post and Courier, Jan. 25, 2000]

TAKE DOWN THE FLAG

As a promoter and preserver of cultural heritage, the South Carolina African American Heritage Council has a keen appreciation and understanding of those who defend the flying of the Confederate battle flag on that basis. The flag in and of itself is indeed a part of South Carolina's heritage. Let's indeed preserve the flag and its legacy, even though that legacy means different things to different people.

Also in our position as preservers of cultural heritage, the council board of directors recognizes the fact that there are places inappropriate for the conspicuous display of historic relics. We defend the right of flag supporters to defend the banner as a relic of cultural integrity.

However, we contend that it is indeed a historic relic and that its position above the Statehouse and in the House and Senate chambers is indefensible. The Confederate battle flag in question never truly held a place of sovereignty even in the days of the Confederacy in the 19th century, but was carried by troops in battle. This makes it reprehensible and even baffling to the impartial and reasoning mind that such a relic would occupy such a position of sovereignty in 21st-century South Carolina.

Not every South Carolinian is a native Southerner. Not every South Carolinian had ancestors who fought, or fought willingly, for the Confederacy in the Civil War. Not all South Carolinians, even native white South Carolinians, believe in the ideas of the Confederacy fought to uphold. And not every South Carolinian feels good about a flag flown by the Ku Klux Klan, neo-Nazis and other racial and ethnic hate groups also hanging in and flying over the halls of government of their state, as if to give the impression, though the impression may be false, that this flag is who we all are and what we all stand for.

Therefore, the South Carolina African American Heritage Council now adds its voice to the evergrowing chorus of those calling for the removal of the Confederate flags from atop the South Carolina Statehouse, from the Senate and House chambers, from the front ground foyer of the Statehouse, and for them to be put in a place more fitting for the preservation of cultural heritage.

MICHAEL A. ALLEN,

Former Chairman,

S.C. African American Heritage Council.